the Social Science Research Council, engaged in research in the same general field.

Emma worked for the Social Science Research Council, the Board of Economic Warfare (later the Foreign Economic Administration), and the Department of State. In addition, my interest in general economic problems has kept me in touch with a half-dozen departments and agencies, and more recently we both have worked in contact with services of the Department of State in Washington and abroad.

CENTRAL STATISTICAL BOARD

I received my first government job the third day after we came to Washington. We arrived on Tuesday night, and next morning I went to see Isadore Lubin, Commissioner of Labor Statistics. Lubin was engaged in a long-distance call when I came to his office. A Negro messenger sat at a small desk in the waiting room reading a newspaper, one foot on the desk and the other in an open drawer, a posture unknown in Europe but popular with U.S. government officials, mighty and humble. (Later I learned that this posture is supposed to improve the circulation.) When Lubin appeared in the doorway, the boy looked at him over the newspaper and continued to read, without changing his comfortable position. This was my introduction to the informality that characterizes U.S. government services.

Lubin was familiar with my German publications and thought the Central Statistical Board might be interested in my work. He called the chairman of the Board, Stuart Rice, and the latter asked me to come to see him in the Commerce Building across the street. The following morning I took the oath of office and entered employment with the government.

The Central Statistical Board was one of the youngest agencies in Washington, still in an experimental state, and I was more impressed by its spirit than its efficiency. Its chairman was a man of broad interests, a brilliant speaker, and a gentleman. Most of the staff members were competent and enthusiastic young men, but the program of the agency seemed to me somewhat vague, while to my colleagues my own ideas seemed far-fetched. My assignment was to explore the scope of statistics that the census would have to supply for the Social Security Administration. I produced a report showing that the Social Security Board itself would collect information required for its current operations.

On the other hand, I suggested, the Social Security program was only one of the New Deal reforms that entailed a reappraisal of the